

Capitol Planning Commission Site Features Committee Meeting Minutes
December 7, 2015
Facilities Management Center, Main Conference Room
(1:01 pm – 2:14 pm)

Committee Members Present:

William Dikis, CPC Chair	Janet Phipps	Jesse Lewis
Carol Grant, Committee Chair	Matthew Harris	

Department of Administrative Services (DAS) Staff Present for All or Portions of the Meeting:

Jennifer Moehlmann, DAS/GSE	Suzy Trotter, DAS/GSE
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Others Present for All or Portions of the Meeting

Mark Willemssen	Jessica Rowe	Tim Hickman
Dan Gannon	Col. Robert King (Ret.)	Dave Reynolds

Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 pm. by Carol Grant, followed by roll call and introductions.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Janet Phipps made a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Jesse Lewis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2015 Meeting

MOTION: Bill Dikis made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. Matthew Harris seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Review Department of Veterans Affairs Site Features Application

Col. Robert King reviewed the Department of Veterans Affairs Site Features Application for the addition of a memorial plaque adjacent to the existing Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The location would be on the curve of the sidewalk leading to the current memorial, approximately seven sidewalk sections back from the memorial. The stone for the plaque would be the same stone that was used for the existing memorial. The stone will be set on a concrete pad as a setting for the monument and protection from mowers, but the memorial is not intended to be walked around. Matt Harris asked if DVA anticipated any other segments of the population to be unrepresented and would they anticipate any future similar memorials. Col. King answered that they do not believe any other unrepresented groups would remain if this memorial plaque were approved. Matt Harris asked if the plaque is in honor of Iowans, or of all Americans in that segment. Col. King said he'd like to leave it generic and inclusive of all Americans. Bill Dikis requested Col. King consult with the Department of the Blind to make sure there aren't any concerns with the proximity of the memorial to the sidewalk and provide a plan to the Commission showing the dimensions and relation to the sidewalk.

MOTION: Janet Phipps made a motion to move the application forward for consideration by the full Capitol Planning Commission, with follow-up on the question for the Department of the Blind. Bill Dikis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Review Iowa Siouan Hawkeye Chapter of the National Society Colonial Dames

Carol Grant reported that a site features application had been received and distributed to the Committee members, but it lacked sufficient detail to be able to review. Jennifer Moehlmann reported she had spoken with the sponsor to ask for more detail and was told the sponsor would get back with her. Carol Grant said there was nothing more to handle until further detail was received.

Review Monumental Journey Progress

Jessica Rowe, with the Des Moines Public Art Foundation (DMPAF), reviewed the history of the Monumental Journey application. DMPAF is working on fundraising and still needs to raise 49% of the \$1,000,000 budget. Ms. Rowe noted that the artist, Kerry James Marshall, had donated his fees.

Ms. Rowe highlighted the main changes to the Monumental Journey monument since the original application:

- The material was changed from fiberglass to brick (which would be manufactured in Iowa). The type and color of brick and mortar is still under consideration.
- The monument is scaled to be about 37' tall from the sidewalk elevation and about 20' wide at the bottom and top.
- The circle paved area the monument sits on would be the same size as Shattering Silence. The monument's paved area would cantilever out from the hill south of Court Avenue and the cantilevered wall material will be unified with the Judicial Building materials.
- Flat surfaces on the monument would likely be painted steel.
- There will likely be flush-mounted uplighting.
- Substance Architecture has been hired to determine the construction details.

Ms. Rowe noted the other site for the monument (the Hansen Triangle) is still in consideration, but it has some large hurdles. Carol Grant asked if a railing would need to be added, since it will be above the hill. Tim Hickman answered some protection would likely be required. Bill Dikis mentioned that he used dark mortar in another building that had turned purple over the years. Janet Phipps asked if there were any issues with the master plan, such as sight lines and view corridors from/to the Judicial Building. Ms. Rowe said she had talked to the Supreme Court Judge and administrative staff early on in the project. Carol Grant noted that the Committee would have to take the newly proposed dimensions under consideration. Jennifer Moehlmann stated drainage issues had developed on the same hillside, further to the west. Janet Phipps said that would need to be kept in mind. Tim Hickman said they would likely stabilize the hill on both sides. Bill Dikis asked if there were any plans for interpretive materials. Ms. Rowe answered that the materials, such as pre-K through 12 educational resources, may be more online, perhaps with signage to lead people to the materials. There may also be a display inside the Judicial Building. Jesse Lewis suggested they strongly consider a full scale model be constructed to demonstrate the viability of brick. Carol Grant said the Committee will wait to hear more from DMPAF on their progress; it is still too soon for final approval.

Review Exterior Lighting Color for Capitol and Ola Babcock Miller

Jennifer Moehlmann stated that the Department of Administrative Services would like to upgrade the exterior lighting at the Ola Babcock Miller building to LED lighting, and the color temperature of the light had come into question. The 4100K color temperature that is specified in the master plan appears too blue for the building, and DAS would like permission to use a 3000K color temperature.

MOTION: Carol Grant made a motion to allow the warmer 3000K lighting for exterior lighting adjacent to the Ola Babcock Miller Building and Capitol Building. Bill Dikis seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Monument Maintenance Funding Outreach Initiative

Carol Grant reported that Tim Ryburn had presented a report on the condition of monuments on the Capitol Complex, including current funding available and future funding needs for each structure, last spring. Some of the monuments have sponsors, but the larger part of the list and the older monuments do not have an endowment. Carol Grant noted that she would be happy to approach organizations to sponsor endowments for additional monuments and invited participation and suggestions from the rest of the Committee. Bill Dikis suggested applying for an annual Bravo grant and investigating an income tax check-off option for the monuments. Carol Grant suggested that the Committee investigate the removal of Iowa: A Place to Grow monument. Janet Phipps will research how the Commission will accept funds and what the process would be for an income tax check-off.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:14 pm.